

## LETTER FROM EUROPE.

Sights in Austria—The People, Their Personal Rights and Freedom—The Schools.

PRAGUE, BOHEMIA, July 14, 1870.

The ride from Dresden here, up the river Elbe and through Saxon Switzerland, is seven hours of good entertainment. The first forty miles is through a country covered with high hills and countless rocky peaks, the latter frequently crowned with rusty old castles of the middle age, which we can see very plainly as they are projected on the clear sky. It was to one of these castles that the King of Saxony removed all his jewels and plate during the last war. At Bodenbach we reached the Bohemian frontier, and the train halted half an hour while a dozen Austrian officials in uniform examined the baggage. The rest of the way was through a rough, rocky valley, which is full of terraces and much more of cultivated land than before. As usual in Germany, the women are at work in the fields; but we cannot help noting that very few men are at work at all. I feel prouder of America than I ever did before. I have heard that Americans in Europe were apt to praise their own country, and I thought I would keep silent on that subject, and go through Europe admiring its collected treasures of ages, and only hope that my own land might be better when older; but much as there is here to admire, museums, galleries, magnificent buildings and great cities, as well as the houses and towns of so many of the world's great and good men, American ideas and civilization are here they see it, and feel it, and "talk too much" about their own country. It is true enough, perhaps, as a general rule, that Europe has more thoroughly cultivated land, greater universities, more treasures in art and greater wealth, but we have broader fields, and we are growing much faster, and our wealth is not confined to the few—or to kings and princes, as it is here. Above all, the barriers between different grades of society are not so impossible. It is said, however, that there is more security for person and property here than in America, and the truth is that law is most rigidly enforced here; that in all the little details of business, the exactions of a written edict must be fully observed. The King has most of the wealth and power, and he must protect himself. In doing this he protects many others, but he certainly oppresses a great body of his people.

Prague has many attractions—old walls, with towers and battlements, well preserved; statuary of the middle ages; several very large and old churches, one of which has its interior jeweled with precious stones of great value, and contains beside a solid silver tomb, said to be the largest piece of silverware in the world. The signs here are all written in both Bohemian and German, while the languages that one may hear spoken in any *cave* comprise Polish, Russian, French, Italian, Hebrew, Greek, and some others. The Emperor is trying to prevent the schools from teaching the Bohemian language, but so far he has failed. They seem determined to learn their own language, and they will probably have their own way about it. The Emperor of Russia has tried to stop the teaching of the Polish language in the public schools of Poland, and he has also failed. There are some things an Emperor cannot do—he cannot change the language of a people. It is surprising that so great a number of the people here understand the nature of the United States Government. They have learned it through little whisperings that are going the rounds, and which must not be talked out too much, and therefore are all the more impressive. They know all about Lincoln, and wonder very much what sort of a land it can be where a poor peasant can become an officer. They are just learning something of private charities, and wonder how Cooper Institute and Vassar College could have been built without aid from the King. They have at least one philanthropist in Bohemia—a man of fortune and high attainments—Vojta Naprstek. He has collected pictures—generally small photographs—of all the charitable institutions in the world that have been the result of private charity. These he enlarges so as to be suitable for a lecture room, and he is calling the people together and telling them the facts, and making it popular to go and do likewise.

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and has had a much greater number. Gibbon and Byron will always afford a new pleasure to a man who has visited Venice, walked through its narrow paths between the houses, and paddled through its streets of water, under the arches and out across the Lagoon to the Carnival, to see the 3,000 gondoliers and hear the rhythmic hum of the gondoliers. See these palaces which combine every style of architecture which the merchants of a world could import, Greece and Palestine. But Venice, like Italy, with which it is now incorporated under Victor Emanuel, is decaying. Its palaces are converted into hotels, its commerce is no longer considerable, its Doges are gone, and many of the beautiful arches of their public buildings are but entrances to miserable shops. Thirty thousand of its population are beggars, and an Italian gun boat, "built on the American plan," they say, stands off its port and maintains the authority of a foreign potentate, over a people who are remarkably proud of their early history, and who point with evident glee to the many tablets and monuments and trophies that adorn their city in commemoration of old victories in the East.

An old Venetian told me an interesting story of his city, that I am sorry I cannot repeat in full. He claimed, however, that Venice had been invincible in arms, had won every battle by sea and land, had been growing richer and more beautiful year by year, until Napoleon came in (1797) as its protector and friend, and then remained its master and enemy, until he gave it up to Austria by treaty. During the Prussian-Austrian War in 1866, Italy espoused the Prussian cause and won, thus putting Venice under Victor Emanuel, where it remains and rests. Its Arsenal and Dock Yard, which has cost many millions, and in which ocean steamers can be built under the roof, is used only as quarters for a company of guards. But the evidence of the former glory of Venice will never all fade away. Her massive columns and archways will last another fifteen hundred years, and after that the school of art she founded, and still longer-lived, will be the fiction and poetry and history in which the names of the greatest authors are tied with Venice. We go to Bologna to-day, and shall make haste to get out of the hot weather of Italy, and up into Switzerland, via Milan, Como and St. Gothard. There is considerable excitement here about the war between France and Prussia, and many think Italy will take a hand in it yet. P.

## SEASON OF 1870!

## MONTVALE SPRINGS,

Blount County, East Tennessee.

THIS FAVORITE SUMMER RESORT FOR THE invalid and pleasure-seeker will be open for the reception of visitors.

JUNE 1st, 1870.

The most marked beneficial results attending the use of these waters, in functional derangements of the LIVER, BOWELS, KIDNEYS and SKIN, and the cure of CHRONIC DISEASES, attest the

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OF THESE WATERS.

Situated at the base of CHILHOWEE MOUNTAINS they present the strongest attractions to both the Invalid and the Pleasure Seeker.

No less on account of its pure invigorating atmosphere and the beauty of the surrounding scenery, than of the restorative powers of its waters. Such provision has been made for the

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That the Proprietor confidently promises satisfaction to his guests.

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With Mail and Passengers.

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Board, per day, \$2.50; per week, \$15.00; per month, \$50.00. Address, for particulars, J. O. B. SMITH, Proprietor, Knoxville, Tenn.

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Merchants and others from the country are respectfully requested to give us a call before purchasing, for we will not be undersold.

O. B. Smith. Julius Enert.

D. W. Brainerd,

april 6

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Particular attention paid to the settling up of Estates, perfecting Titles to Real Estate, &c.

april 6

For Sale. A GOOD FARM, ON THE BOYD'S FERRY ROAD, one-half a mile distant from the river, and four and a half miles from Knoxville, can be bought for \$1,500. The farm contains about

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All new land; 30 acres of which is cleared, with several acres in grass, and 5 or 6 acres in clover. Has a good dwelling, excellent spring, kitchen, smoke house, corn crib, and all necessary out houses.

Also, a good farm in Warren County, containing about 30 acres, of which 15 are cleared. Is for sale at \$200. The farm has a good house, stable, and is pleasantly situated. For further particulars, apply at the first named farm, or half mile from Knoxville, to

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GEORGE THURMAN.

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## EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.

Nos. 116, 118, 120, 122 and 124, Broadway.

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Cash Assets, \$12,000,000.

Annual Cash Income over \$5,000,000.

PURELY MUTUAL. ALL PROFITS ANNUALLY divided among Policy Holders. \$1,242,450.00 in dividends paid to its policy holders in 1869.

Amount Insured for 1869, \$50,492,941.00.

Active AGENTS WANTED in each county in East Tennessee. Apply to

L. H. ROWLES, General Agent for East Tennessee, Office No. 1, Court House, KNOXVILLE, TENN. Dr. J. M. BOYD, Medical Examiner, Dr. JAS. RODGERS, for Knoxville, April 6th

## STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF THE NIAGARA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, OF THE CITY NEW YORK, On the First Day of July, 1870.

CAPITAL.

Cash Capital and surplus, \$1,340,000 00

ASSETS.

United States Securities, \$724,350 00

Loans on Bond and Mortgage, 185,400 00

Cash in Bank and hands of Agents, 78,400 00

Loans on Stocks, payable on demand, 192,700 00

Real estate, 20,572 80

Alabama, Tennessee, Brooklyn City and New York Bonds, 70,000 00

Other Securities, 70,572 24

LIABILITIES.

Losses in process of adjustment, \$32,000 00

All other claims, 602 50

\$32,602 50

STATE OF TENNESSEE, COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE, NASHVILLE, July 1st, 1870.

I, E. R. PENNEBAKER, Comptroller of the Treasury, do hereby certify that the Niagara Fire Insurance Company, located at New York, in the State of New York, has produced to me satisfactory evidence that said Company has complied with all the requirements of the laws of the State of Tennessee imposed on insurance companies; and I further certify that Munson & Bailey, Agents of said Company, have also complied with the requirements of the laws of the State, made and provided in such cases; Wherefore, said Insurance Company has authority to take risks and transact the business of insurance in this State, at Knoxville, Tennessee.

E. R. PENNEBAKER, Comptroller of Tennessee, aug-6-70.

## SIGN OF THE BIG GUN!

1870. GUNS! 1870.

STACY & ANGEL,

Manufacturers of Rifles,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

DEALERS IN

GUNS, PISTOLS, Cartridges.

SPORTING ARTICLES AND GUN MATERIAL.

G. D. Water Proof and Musket Caps,

POCKET CUTLERY, FISHING TACKLE.

SHOT, LEAD, GUN BARRELS.

And every other Article usually found in a first class

SPORTING HOUSE.

Agents for the

Orange Rifle Powder.

A large lot of Powder and Fuse always on hand.

We have good workmen and are prepared to do repairing of all kinds.

Rifles Made to Order.

We are still buying Old Arms. Send for Price List.

Orders solicited and carefully filled.

STACY & ANGEL,

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THREE SPECIAL PREMIUMS

FOR

Ramsdell Norway Oats!

First—For the Largest Yield from One Acre, with Best Two Bushels of the Oats, A GOLD MEDAL!

Second—For the Best Sheaf or Bundle, A SILVER MEDAL!

Third—For the Largest Stalks Grown from a Single Grain.

BLANCHARD'S CELEBRATED CHURN!

THE SECOND AND THIRD SHOULD BE GATH

ered before ripened, in order to preserve the heads

perfect and prevent shattering.

The above Premiums will be awarded by the appropriate

Committee of the East Tennessee Division Fair, to be held at Knoxville this Fall. Entries to be made by the grower.

We cordially invite all who have the Ramsdell Norway to enter for one or all of the premiums.

H. O. H. & C. H. RICH, GAY ST., KNOXVILLE, TENN.

JOHN BAXTER, President, E. P. BAILEY, Cashier.

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TENNESSEE MONEY FOR TAXES FOR SALE.

Best rates paid for New Issue Bank of Tennessee, East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia Railroad Stock and Bonds bought and sold, and a General Banking Business transacted.

Interest paid on Deposits in SAVINGS BANK Department.

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Solicitor in Chancery.

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april 6th

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—AND—

STEAM ENGINES.

Mill Furnishing Goods,

—AND—

SAW MILLS.